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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Christin Kamm
402-471-6856

APPLY NOW FOR DAIRY BUSINESS BUILDER GRANTS

LINCOLN – Dairy farmers, manufacturers, and processors in Nebraska can apply now until Nov. 10 at 5:00 p.m. (CT) for a new round of Dairy Business Builder grants through the Dairy Business Innovation Alliance (DBIA), a partnership between the Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association and the Center for Dairy Research at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

The reimbursement grants of up to \$100,000 each, aim to support small- to medium-sized dairy businesses in diversifying on-farm activity, creating value-added products, enhancing dairy byproducts, and creating or enhancing dairy export programs. In addition to Nebraska, dairy farmers and processors in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, South Dakota, Kansas, and Wisconsin can apply.

“Dairy products are one of Nebraska’s top 10 commodities, so there is a strong focus on dairy growth and development in this state,” said Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) Director Steve Wellman. “We welcome these grants as an additional source of support for Nebraska dairies and processors looking to expand and improve their businesses and make a positive impact on rural Nebraska.”

Application materials and resources are now available online at cdr.wisc.edu/dbia. Successful applicants will be notified by Dec. 15, 2022. Questions may be directed to Allissa Troyer at 531-220-9211 or allissa.troyer@nebraska.gov.

Since its creation in the 2018 Farm Bill, the DBIA has administered more than \$3.7 million in grants to dairy farms and businesses in five Midwestern states. Additional funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture is now supporting an expansion of the program’s service area to include Nebraska, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, and Ohio.

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